

on you - You are a fine fellow -
but me in a boat - I think you are making me a lot of trouble
enjoy yourself while you are home - I shall want nothing
I am glad to hear you are well - I hope you are
Washington September 6th 1863

Dear Wife Yours came yesterday, and today the Barre Gazette
from the office I conclude you ordered them to send it - "cant get out
my mind who that Hill was what deserted and was shot, unless it was
the one who lived 1 1/2 miles South of the village, but I did not think him so old.
I have to inform you that my coat has been found, I think W S Dunbar
ought to send it out to me free of expense, In regard to your selling the Organ
I will leave that wholly to you, I think you ought to get \$200, or \$225, I pre-
sume they could get one at the manufacturers for \$200, if you come
out to settle with me in Western Virginia when the war is over it may
be it will be better for you to have the money at interest, so
you will have quite a pile which runs up fast, by being on
interest. You have told me nothing about your money yet
whether Foster has paid you or not. I am in hopes of being
able to make a pile before I go home. I think now I shall not go
home this fall, when I count the cost, I fear it wont pay
and you will need all the money you get, and those
that go home say they wish they had not gone, for they hardly
got home before they had to come back, and the old sore was ruptured
and left a running sore. I shall send you back the money you
sent me, and had I not bought my coat should have been able to
send you more; as I have before been able to send you considerable
of the \$7 I retain for my own use. being an officer I have to buy many
things which a private does not. The Government clothes are not suitable
for Sgts (that is all of them.) There is a man in the City who owns 35000
acres of land in Western Vir. which is heavy wooded and never
cultivated, left to him by an uncle, which he wants settled so as to
bring it into market, and offers to give 100 acres to any New
England man of good steady habits -and will build a saw
mill and give to them use, it is located on the South side
of Allegany mountains well watered, and very healthy if
we can get up a colony to go there I may be one, when the war is over.
I am going to be on the lookout for a situation before I go back, this
is the country for peaches grapes melons and the many good
things which a kind providence lavishes upon us. I could build me
a house on it, in three weeks time with an outlay of \$25. which
would be comfortable for us all, and then we should have a home
all our own, in one of the healthiest climates, in the country where
the cold frosts of winter do not freeze you up. I know how to
build a log house, yes and many things I never knew until
I came out in the army. It is my opinion when the war closes a great
portion of the soldiers will settle in the Southern States, and the immigration
will be turned there instead of the West; and you will find those vast
tracks of land hitherto unsettled, peopled with live Yankees, and

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in a few years these rivers will be lined with mills of all kinds
and the skill of the mechanick will be seen in evry village,
and prosperity, plenty and happiness, will be stamped upon
those oppressed States, now bleeding under the galling hand of
the tyrants. Monday morning I am most sick to day. I never had so
bad a cold settled on my lungs, but I think it is looser to day.
I bought some onions and fried them for my breakfast, I
am so as to be on duty in camp as usual. Mrs. Rust from Mar-
lboro is sick and the Doct. says she is threatened with typhoid
fever. I hope she wont have it, for it is a hard place to be sick but
Mrs. Adamans who came with her will be here to take care of her.
Masons Brother is out here taking care of Charles, they think there
is some hopes of his recovery his throat is better, but I did not know
before that diptheria came out in sores. his commenced on his
foot which swelled up twice the usual size, and if he peals
the skin from any part of his body a membrane forms the
same as in the throat. Chas Mattoon is some better and there is
hopes of his recovery. Haynes is so he begins to do a little light
duty; he had a box from home Saturday with dried Currants, Berries
Apples; jelly, Porter, wine, and such things as a sick man
would be thankful for - I send you a paper to day what
a beautiful little piece "our Idol" is. We have smoothed out his
ringlets and closed her blue eyes, I can see it now, I feel it.
"When we have crossed the Crystal Sea" is another beautiful piece.
those two bits of poetry are worth twice the price of the paper
which is 5 cts a copy. When you send papers you can send
two or even three for two cents just as well if they dont
weigh over 4 Oz. Dear One I see you in all your trials
and struggles through life, and I am not unmindful of them,
and I pray that you may be sustained under them, trusting
the time will yet come when the dark clouds will blow over
and the blue sky be to us as delightful as ever. One year
is nearly past since I was mustered into service, and
the second will more quickly fly, and then we can begin to
count the months should the war still continue, which I
trust will be closed during the next year. I shall try to do
all I can for your comfort now and be making plans for your
future when the war shall close, in all probability we shall
not be called into action this winter, and if we do as well in the
future as we have in the past our chance is good to stay here a
long time. There was one Regt. that was liked here very much staid
18 mos. and now they are not to the front. We are called the best Regt.
that ever was in the city. Although some of the N.H. folks call us a band box
Regt., baby Regt. etc. and seem to feel real bad that we have not
been in battle and killed off most of us, but I am satisfied to stay
here, and let folks talk, for our reputation is made. I think we
shall be paid about the 20th Cap. Combs is still sick. I think he
love to all and much to you and Flora. (may go home)

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[The following is cross hatched on pg. 1]

I am glad Freyse, and her health so good. I think you will
enjoy yourself better when you get to housekeeping. I shall want my things
sent me in about a month I think. You are making me a pr of socks
are you from Your Affectionate husband J.H. Jenks